Introduction

This issue of Core Brief details information on new appointments and ruling on inaccurate report in Daily Record.

New appointments

Dr Chris Deighan has been appointed Deputy Medical Director – Corporate to provide clinical leadership on Board-wide issues, including the Moving Forward Together programme and the eHealth Strategy and to support the development and delivery of the Healthcare Quality Strategy.

Dr Scott Davidson has been appointed to the role of Deputy Medical Director – Acute. Scott will work with Jonathan Best, Chief Operating Officer, on a range of acute priorities including developing acute clinical services with the clinical teams, medical workforce planning, team job planning and working with the Board’s Infection Control Team.

Jonathan said: “I am looking forward to working with Scott to support our staff to deliver safe and effective patient care across all of our acute services. Scott will support the development of our secondary and tertiary services through our Moving Forward Together programme.”

Dr Jennifer Armstrong, Board Medical Director, said: “Chris and Scott have a wealth of experience and will work directly with Chiefs of Medicine, senior clinicians and managers across NHSGGC to develop clinical leadership Board-wide and help strengthen the Board’s strategy on delivering high quality clinical care to our patients.”

Dr David Stewart, Board Deputy Medical Director, will retire in June. Thanking him for his commitment and contribution over the past 38 years, Jennifer said: “David has delivered excellent clinical care to many patients as a consultant in care for the elderly. In addition, he has taken on many senior clinical leadership roles from Associate Medical Director to Acute Medical Director and latterly, working as Board Deputy Medical Director to drive forward clinical development across the Board. He has played a crucial role in many of the key developments in NHSGGC over many years and has been an excellent role model in clinical leadership. We wish him well in his retirement.”

Ruling on inaccurate report in Daily Record

On 13 February the Daily Record reported claims from the family of a patient that they had only discovered their relative had a Mucor infection through a press release on the Board’s website (“Gran fights for life in yet another hospital infection – Family only learn of bug from website”).
We had made clear in our statement to the newspaper that this was untrue.

We complained initially to the newspaper and then the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO) about the article.

We were informed this week that our complaint has been upheld.

A correction has now been printed in Daily Record as follows:

A story on Feb 13 about a woman who died after contracting the infection Mucor fungus at Glasgow’s Queen Elizabeth University Hospital stated that her family found out that their relative had contracted Mucor through the hospital’s press release alone. In fact, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde’s press release did not refer to the Mucor infection or its severity. The family were told that their relative had a fungal infection prior to the press release being published. We therefore accept that we reported in error that the family only found out about a Mucor infection through a press release on the hospital website.

IPSO will also publish a Resolution Statement on their website on the outcome of their investigation.

At the time, the article in the Daily Record prompted claims of a culture of secrecy by NHSGGC so this is an important ruling in our favour.